GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2073
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2016
Quality of Imported Food
Galla Shri Jayadev

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of food products imported in the country during the last three years, product and country-wise;

(b) whether the Goverenment proposes to introduce new regulations for imported food items and its shelf life;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent by which the new regulation is likely to ensure quality of imported food items?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)
(a): Food items imported by India during last three years include food additives, alcohol, dry/fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, oil, meat, fish, pulses, spices, ready to eat food, etc. These are imported mainly from countries such as Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Cote D Ivoire, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Ireland, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Netherland, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Spain, South Africa, Srilanka, Sudan, Sweden, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, USA, United Kingdom, Vietnam, Zambia, etc. Country wise and product wise data of such imports is, however, not maintained by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
(b) to (d): The FSSAI, exercising emergency powers, operationalised the Food Safety and Standards (Food Import) Regulations, 2016 with effect from 14.01.2016. Food articles, are as per these regulations to be allowed to be imported only when these meet the requirement of standards specified by Food Authority and has 60% shelf life at the time of its clearance.
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